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colleges in 1874, there were, including preparatory and collegiate departments, only about fourteen hundred students, by far the greater number of these in the lower grades of preparatory. It is found difficult to induce students to take extended classical or scientific drill. In closing this paper, I am glad to quote the opinion on this subject of a teacher known to you all, Dr. Marvin: "I had almost reached the conclusion that in Kansas we had struck the golden mean. The students with whom I had to do in Allegheny College were better drilled in the elements of education than most who come to us here. Our students certainly show a mental vigor, as a body, equal to any with whom I have met, in an experience of twenty-nine years of seminary and college labor. The students, as I know them in Keeseville Academy, Clinton county, New York, were quite as lively at ball, especially foot-ball, but not better in algebra. This is as I seem to see them in 1839. I doubt whether we yet have age and solidity enough in society here, to determine scientifically the merits and demerits of our climate or brain ability."

Baldwin City, Kansas, November, 1876.

BISON LATIFRONS IN KANSAS.

By B. F. Mudge.

In his monograph on the American bison, Prof. J. A. Allen has given a description of two species of extinct buffalo, viz.: *B. latifrons* and *B. antiquus*. Of these, the former is the largest, the rarest, and the most remarkable. No entire or half skeleton exists, and it has been found in four only of the United States. Even single bones are rare. It therefore becomes of interest to preserve every fragment of this gigantic animal. A few months ago, a horn-core of *B. latifrons* was fished from the bed of the Big Blue river, a few miles from Manhattan, Kas. We give its measurements as follows, viz.:

Length on the convex side	31 inches.
Length on the chord of the arc	22 inches.
Circumference 3 inches from the base	16½ inches.
Circumference 10 inches from the base	13 inches.
Circumference 14 inches from the base	12 inches.
Circumference 24 inches from the base	8½ inches.

Comparing these measurements with those given by Prof. Allen, we find our Kansas specimen a little shorter, more slender, and more curved than his. This would indicate the Kansas horn-core to be from a female. About an inch had been broken from the tip. If we restore this, and add the horn—which was rather slender—and the breadth of skull, we shall find that the distance from tip to tip will be over nine feet. The weight of *B. latifrons* was about four times that of the living buffalo. One other specimen has been found in Texas. As yet, these two are the only specimens of *B. latifrons* that have been discovered between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains.

HABITS OF THE PRAIRIE DOGS.

By H. A. Brous.

Prairie dogs have been the subject of many wild speculations. Much has been given to the public as facts concerning these interesting animals